

AEROMEDICAL CONCERNS: An inability to sustain or appropriately divide attention is not compatible with aviation service.

WAIVERS:

Initial Class 1A/1W Applicants:

A history of ADHD is disqualifying. Exceptions to policy are sometimes granted for initial flight applicants provided all the information below is submitted for review by USAAMA.

Initial Class 2F, 2P, Class 3, and Class 4 Applicants:

A history of ADHD is disqualifying on initial FDME. Waivers are possible provided all the information below is submitted for review by USAAMA.

Aviation Personnel (all classes):

New diagnosis of adult ADHD will be evaluated case-by-case based on the information listed below.

Waivers for chronic medication usage will not be considered for those in direct control of aircraft.

INFORMATION REQUIRED:

1. Detailed clinical interview by a clinical psychologist or psychiatrist to include developmental, academic, employment, psychiatric, social, drug, alcohol, criminal driving infraction and medication history.
2. Review of treatment records.
3. If clinical interview and records review suggest normal attention or inappropriate diagnosis of ADHD in childhood or adolescence this may be noted as "information only."
4. If interview and records review suggest positive findings for ADHD, a detailed neuropsychological assessment to include cognitive domains, IQ, and achievement testing.
5. Continuous Performance Testing (Conners, Integrated Visual and Auditory Continuous Performance Test, TOVA) is recommended.

FOLLOW-UP:

The diagnosis of childhood ADHD that has not required treatment since adolescence, and does not prove to be currently impacting the individual based on testing, will not require annual follow-up. Those diagnosed with adult ADHD will require annual follow up with a treating psychologist or psychiatrist.

TREATMENT:

Treatment of ADHD will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Indication of mild to moderate ADHD with demonstrably improved performance on objective testing will be considered more favorably. Waivers for medication usage in aviators is not possible.

DISCUSSION:

The diagnosis of ADHD in children and adults can be difficult. Some adults may have inappropriately received the diagnosis in childhood or adolescence. In addition, many adults with poor concentration without hyperactivity may have ADHD but were never diagnosed in childhood. Utilizing neuropsychological testing will assist in quantify the extent of the condition as well as favorable response to treatment.